

Union Calendar No. 252

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4003

[Report No. 111–436]

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate resources in the Hudson River Valley in the State of New York to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the site as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 3, 2009

Mr. HINCHEY (for himself, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. ENGEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

MARCH 11, 2010

Additional sponsors: Mr. TONKO, Mr. MURPHY of New York, and Mr. HALL of New York

MARCH 11, 2010

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union
and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on November 3, 2009]

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate resources in the Hudson River Valley in the State of New York to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the site as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Hudson River Valley*
5 *Special Resource Study Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 *In this Act:*

8 (1) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
9 *the Secretary of the Interior.*

10 (2) *STUDY AREA.*—*The term “study area”—*

11 *(A) means the portion of the Hudson River*
12 *that flows from Rodgers Island at Fort Edward*
13 *to the southern-most boundary of Westchester*
14 *County, New York; and*

15 *(B) includes any relevant sites and land-*
16 *scapes within the counties in New York that abut*
17 *the area described in subparagraph (A).*

18 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF STUDY.**

19 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*As soon as funds are made avail-*
20 *able for this purpose, the Secretary shall complete a special*
21 *resource study of the Hudson River Valley in the State of*
22 *New York to evaluate—*

23 (1) *the national significance of the area; and*

24 (2) *the suitability and feasibility of designating*
25 *the area as a unit of the National Park System.*

1 (b) *STUDY GUIDELINES.*—*In conducting the study*
2 *under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—*

3 (1) *use the criteria for the study of areas for po-*
4 *tential inclusion in the National Park System in ac-*
5 *cordance with section 8(c) of Public Law 91–383 (16*
6 *U.S.C. 1a–5(c));*

7 (2) *determine the effect of the designation of the*
8 *area as a unit of the National Park System on exist-*
9 *ing commercial and recreational activities, including*
10 *but not limited to hunting, fishing, trapping, rec-*
11 *reational shooting, motor boat use, off-highway vehicle*
12 *use, snowmobile use, and on the authorization, con-*
13 *struction, operation, maintenance, or improvement of*
14 *energy production and transmission infrastructure,*
15 *and the effect on the authority of State and local gov-*
16 *ernments to manage those activities;*

17 (3) *identify any authorities that will compel or*
18 *permit the Secretary to influence local land use deci-*
19 *sions (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-*
20 *Federal land if the area is designated a unit of the*
21 *National Park System; and*

22 (4) *closely examine park unit models, in par-*
23 *ticular national river and recreation areas, as well as*
24 *other landscape protection models, that—*

1 (A) encompass large areas of non-Federal
2 lands within their designated boundaries;

3 (B) foster public and private collaborative
4 arrangements for achieving National Park Serv-
5 ice objectives; and

6 (C) protect and respect the rights of private
7 land owners.

8 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

9 Not later than 36 months after the date that funds are
10 first made available for this purpose, the Secretary shall
11 submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House
12 of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Nat-
13 ural Resources of the Senate a report on the findings, con-
14 clusions, and recommendations of the study authorized by
15 this Act.

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